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Manual**

**Table 6-5  
NFPA 1500 Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Programs  
- Minimum Requirements Applicable to Fairfax County OHSP -**

**ORGANIZATION**

- Prepare organizational statement to include: basic organizational structure; number of fire department members; type of functions members are expected to perform; type, amount, and frequency of training to be provided members.
- Prepare risk management plan to include: risk identification - actual and potential hazards; risk evaluation; risk control techniques; and risk monitoring.
- Prepare occupational safety and health policy identifying specific goals and objectives for the prevention and elimination of accidents and occupational injuries, exposures to communicable diseases, illnesses, and fatalities.
- Designate fire department health and safety officer – appointed by the Fire Chief.
- Establish Occupational Safety and Health Committee to serve in an advisory capacity to the Fire Chief.
- Maintain confidential health records in a health data base. Records to include results of all medical and physical evaluations; and reports of all accidents, injuries, illnesses, exposures to infectious agents and communicable diseases, or deaths that might be job-related.
- Maintain training records for all members which indicate training dates, subjects covered, satisfactory completion and, if applicable, certifications achieved.

**TRAINING AND EDUCATION\***

- Establish and maintain a training and education program with a goal of preventing occupational accidents, deaths, injuries and illnesses.
- Provide training and education for all members to assure ability to perform assigned duties in a safe manner that does not pose a hazard to themselves or to other members.

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**\*NOTE:** Chapter 3, Section 3-2, addresses specific training requirements. See full text of standard for this listing.

<b>Return to Manual</b>	<b>Table 6-5</b> <b>NFPA 1500 Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Programs</b> <b>- Minimum Requirements Applicable to Fairfax County OHSP -</b>
<b>PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Provide each member with appropriate protective clothing and equipment suitable for the tasks that the member is expected to perform.</li><li>- Train members in care, use, inspection, maintenance, and limitations of the protective clothing and equipment assigned or available for use.</li><li>- Adopt and maintain a respiratory protection program that addresses selection, inspection, safe use, and maintenance of respiratory protection equipment, training in its use, and assurance of air quality testing. Test and certify members at least annually in the safe and proper use of respiratory protection equipment they are authorized to use.</li></ul>	
<b>MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL</b>	
<b>Medical Requirements</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Fire department physician will medically evaluate and certify all candidates, taking into account the risks and functions associated with individual's duties and responsibilities.</li><li>- Fire department physician will periodically (at least annually) evaluate all members engaged in fire suppression activities. Additionally, the fire department physician will evaluate individuals before they are reassigned to emergency duties after debilitating illnesses or injuries.</li></ul>	

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<b>MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL (Continued)</b>	
<b>Physical Performance Requirements</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Fire department shall develop physical performance requirements for candidates and members who engage in emergency operations.</li><li>- Candidates shall be certified by the department as meeting the physical performance requirements prior to entering a training program to become a fire fighter.</li><li>- Members shall be evaluated and certified annually as meeting the physical performance requirements. Members unable to meet requirements shall enter a physical performance rehabilitation program.</li><li>- Medical clearance for respirator use shall be conducted annually.</li></ul>	
<b>Physical Fitness</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Department shall establish and provide a physical fitness program and require structured participation of all members in this program.</li><li>- Department health and fitness coordinator shall administer all aspects of the physical fitness and health enhancement program.</li></ul>	
<b>Infection Control</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Department shall operate an infection control program and actively attempt to identify and limit or prevent exposure to infectious and contagious diseases.</li></ul>	
<b>Fire Department Physician</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Department shall have an officially designated physician who is responsible for guiding, directing, and advising members with regard to their health, fitness, and suitability for various duties.</li></ul>	

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<b>MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL (Continued)</b>	
<b>Post-Injury/Illness Rehabilitation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Department OHSP will assist members affected by occupational injuries or illnesses in their rehabilitation in an effort to facilitate return to full active duty or limited duty where possible.</li><li>- Health and fitness coordinator shall, in cooperation with the Fire and Rescue Department, conduct a physical performance assessment on any individual returning to full duty from a debilitating injury, illness, or any other extended leave.</li></ul>	
<b>MEMBER ASSISTANCE AND WELLNESS PROGRAM</b>	
<b>Member Assistance Program</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Department shall provide a program that identifies and assists members and their immediate families with substance abuse, stress, and personal problems that adversely affect work performance.</li><li>- Department shall adopt a written policy statement on alcoholism, substance abuse and the problems covered under the program.</li><li>- Department shall establish written rules regarding how records are maintained, policies governing retention and access and procedure for release of information.</li></ul>	
<b>Wellness Program</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Department shall provide health promotion activities that identify physical and mental health risk factors.</li><li>- Department shall provide education and counseling for the purpose of preventing health problems and enhancing well-being.</li></ul>	

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**CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS PROGRAM**

- Department shall adopt a written policy that establishes a program designed to relieve stress generated by an incident that could adversely affect the psychological and physical well-being of fire department members. Policy shall establish criteria for program implementation.
- Department physician shall provide medical guidance in the management of the critical incident stress program.